THE

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

☞ This Paper will be published every SATURDAY. The Subscription for three months 4 dollars. All communications to be addressed to the Editors, and left at No. 47, Calle del 25 de Mayo, or at this Office, where Subscriptions are received.

No. 84.] BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1828. [Vol. 2.

BUENOS AYRES.

THE public mind has been considerably excited, during the week, by rumours of peace.

On Sunday last the British sloop of war *Heron* arrived here from Rio Janeiro and Monte Video, with duplicate of despatches, (the originals being in the British frigate *Thetis*, which sailed from Rio some days previous to the *Heron.*) The arrival was not at first supposed to relate to any thing more important than heretofore, and consequently raised but little curiosity. On Monday morning nothing was said of peace; on the contrary, a large prize cargo was sold at high prices. In the afternoon, negotiation was whispered; or rather that peace was certain.—Doubloons declined from 65 to 50, as did almost every article of domestic consumption: 6 per cent. Stock rose from 47 to 55.

On Tuesday the news seemed confirmed, and Doubloons were from 40 to 45. To depict the consternation exhibited by the numerous speculators and holders of goods, exceeds our powers of description, and evinced the height to which speculation has been carried in this city. It is a subject which will scarcely bear a jest; yet those to whom peace is desirable, did remark upon "long faces," and the thread-bare joke of the "barbers' double prices"

The reports in circulation are,—that the proposals which this Government made to Brazil, and which were conveyed by the *Hope* packet, have been, with some modifications, acceded to: the Banda Oriental to be independent of both the belligerents, and at the end of five years to remain so, or to have the option of uniting itself with the Empire of Brazil or this Republic: the Brazilian troops to evacuate Monte Video, Colonia, &c. Others say, that an indemnifica tion has been required by Brazil, and that Great Britain is to become the guarantee for the strict fulfilment of the treaty.

Certain it is that peace is now really expected, and two persons have been appointed by this Government to meet Brazilian negotiators, probably at Monte Video. Señor Vidal has left Buenos Ayres upon a mission to General Lavalleja. Rumour adds, that the Emperor has departed from the high tone he has so long assumed, from the critical state of the army under General Lecor, the losses sustained from the privateers, and the serious interruption to Brazilian commerce. A conspiracy against the Emperor has been likewise mentioned. We could relate a hundred other *on dits.*

In the absence of all positive information, it would be folly in us to offer remarks.

The members appointed to attend the Convention at Santa Fé, or San Lorenzo, have left this city.

The third Bulletin from the Army has arrived. A considerable portion of it is occupied in details relative to the fort of Santa Teresa, &c., which we have already published. The other parts we now give to our readers.

REPUBLICAN ARMY.—CAMPAIGN OF 1828.

THIRD BULLETIN.

"An intercepted letter from the Brazilian officer Lieut.-General Juan de Dios Mena Barreto, to the Viscount de la Laguna (Lecor), complains of the difficulty of collecting the militia at San Gabriel; that no patriotism exists, or desire to defend the province."

The Bulletin then proceeds,—"It is known for a certainty that the Viscount has written to one of the first personages in Monte Video, lamenting the state of the Imperial Army; that it is in the most complete "desmoralizacion;" continual desertions; the martial spirit and enthusiasm entirely extinguished, which ought in this epoch to display itself more than at any other; and that he believes nothing can be effected, and fears the most direful results.

"The details, and preceding extracts, convey an unequivocal idea of the situation of the enemy.—His armies constantly defeated during three years; the loss of his best troops; an accumulation of unhappy victims, sacrificed to the ambition and injustice of a tyrant; and their property for the most part in our power. This complicated union of disasters has produced a decided influence upon the spirit of the army: they do not wish to fight, and only sigh for peace. On the other hand, the inhabitants obliged to abandon their homes and to serve, prefer to disperse themselves in the woods and mountains, rather than be enrolled and aid in a war which they detest, and which drags after it an interminable chain of evils. In vain the Chiefs have recourse to violence to enforce enlistments; as on the first opportunity they disappear from their ranks, desert, or pass over to the Republican Army, by whom they are received with humanity and affection, and every protection is given them.

"February 2 Three deserters came in from the enemy's army; likewise two prisoners and two negroes taken the

British Commercial Rooms

preceding day by the advanced guard of Latorre's division. The Commander in Chief ordered Colonel Pacheco to march this afternoon with a division of 500 men, to traverse the enemy's territory in various directions, collect horses, and carry on hostilities according to the rules of war. He has been particularly charged to respect the pacific inhabitant and his property; to chastise, with the utmost severity, those who by their criminal conduct stain the honor of the Republican Army, and dishonor the uniform they wear. The prudence and proved valour of this distinguished Chief, will avoid all disorders; and we have the flattering hope that his mission will produce the brilliant results expected from the confidence which the Commander in Chief has reposed in him.

3d. Arrived four cavalry soldiers, deserters; they came armed with sword and pistol. An infantry soldier likewise came over to us, and reported that a great disagreement had taken place between Viscount de la Laguna, and the Generals Braun and Calado. That on the army's leaving the Yerbal, these last officers were of opinion not to retire, but to give battle; alledging that the army would be disorganized by desertion and "desmoralizacion," that if ultimately they were to loose all it would be better to do so in the field of battle, because that would be more honorable than to retreat. But the Viscount, firm in his principles to operate rather by intrigue than by arms, answered that it was not convenient now,—the present was not the time for it; and it is said that from the warmth with which the question was sustained, General Braun has been arrested, and the Brigadier Calado asked for his passport and has gone away.—[It is known he has arrived at Monte Video.]

5th. Arrived two prisoners taken by the vanguard.

6th. General Laguna established various posts of communication for the more speedy transmission of intelligence, and covered various important points.

7th. The Commandant of the Guard at the Cerrito has written that several families of that neighbourhood have returned, and that an individual has gone from that territory to bring back those who by indiscretion and unfounded fears, have hitherto refused to return. He likewise communicated that 50 of the enemy had arrived at Las Bretañas, but the moment a party of our men appeared, they hastily retired. Colonel Pacheco writes, under date of 5th, that a party he had sent to collect horses, under Captain Santana, had surprised 30 of the enemy in the pass of Candiote, killed 10 men, and made 12 prisoners besides the commanding officer. The said Colonel found in that neighbourhood an old deserter from his regiment: he was executed two hours after his capture, in front of the division. He had lived too long, and every instant he was suffered to exist longer, would be a new wound against the honor and the moral of the corps and army to which he belonged.

8th. The General in Chief marched in the afternoon of this day to reconnoitre the enemy's position.

9th. Arrived three deserters from the regiments No. 1, and 4, of cavalry: one with sword and pistol, the others with carbines. The Commander in Chief returned, having well reconnoitred the enemy's position; and considering it "inatacable," was retiring when a piquet of them, consisting of 25 men, was observed. A party of 14 men was sent to attack them, but the moment the enemy saw them approach they ran for refuge to a reserve of about 50 men, and what is more incredible, our small party still pursuing the 75 men, the whole of them fled precipitately until they reached their camp.

12th. The piquets of Gen. Laguna destined to traverse by the hills of Acegua and the coast of Rio Negro returned; they had met with nothing except some parties of our army bringing in deserters.

15. Arrived a German deserter and and a negro. This evening Lieutenant Berdun had a long skirmish with the enemy whilst he was proceeding to reconnoitre; he had a soldier wounded, and his small party being attacked by two squadrons, retired.

16. Received three thousand horses sent in by Col. Pacheco. He informed the Commander-in-Chief that he had decided to return to head-quarters, his mission being now without an object as his marches were known to General Mena Barreto, and that he could undertake nothing against the enemy as they kept united, and did not venture to any distance from their camp.

17. The division of Col. Pachecho was incorporated with the army, and it is flattering to manifest that he has fulfilled his mission to the best possible satisfaction of the Commander in Chief.

Head Quarters, Yaguaron, 17th February, 1828.

(Signed) JOAQUIN REVILLO, *Secretary*.

Gen. Lavalleja writes, under date 2d March, to the Minister of War and Marine, enclosing a despatch from Capt. Juan Santana, that 100 of the enemy had been attacked and routed with more than 20 killed and pursued for two leagues; the loss on the part of the Republicans was, Cornet D. Damasceno Mena, badly wounded, (since dead,) a sergeant and five soldiers wounded. Lavalleja observes that fortune favors the Republican Army, and that success attends all its steps to the chastisement of tyranny.

The alarm which was felt relative to the proceedings of Fructuoso Rivero in the Banda Oriental, has in a great degree subsided. The object he has in view remains a mystery. It is said he musters about 160 men. Of course the most exaggerated reports have been promulgated, else it would not be Buenos Ayres.

The following notice has been posted in the British Commercial Rooms:—

"Orders have been sent from Rio Janeiro to Monte Video, to discontinue the practice of exacting bonds from neutral vessels, (not to enter the ports of the Republic,) and further to prolong the time allowed for the deposit of neutral goods.

(Signed,) "W. PARISH."

"To Thomas Duguid, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of British Merchants, Buenos Ayres."

The following notice appears in a late number of the *Mercurio* of Valparaiso:—

"British Consulate Valparaiso, Feb. 2, 1828.

"Notice is hereby given that *El Griego*, Spanish privateer, of 500 tons, 16 guns, and 185 men, is on the Western coast of the Pacific, and has already taken and ransomed some vessels under the flags of Chile and Peru.

"JOHN WHITE, Vice-Consul."

Fournier has addressed a letter to the Minister of War and Marine, dated on board the National schooner of war Juncal, off Cape Frio, 5th February 1828, in which he states having met with contrary winds,—that he had taken a fine American built brig, Brazilian property, (said to be the Homer,) coming from Santos, in ballast; expressing his intention to arm her as a man-of-war, that she can mount 16 guns, and has some twelve pounders

on board,—has likewise destroyed a small vessel, from which he took 15 negroes,—hopes in two or three days to fulfil the mission upon the coast with which the Government have entrusted him, and then to sail from that quarter.

March 8.—Wind E. A Brazilan brig and a schooner under sail all day cruising. Arrived four balandras from the northward.

9.—Wind E. hazy. The blockading squadron standing towards the Outer Roads, near to which they tacked and afterwards returned to their former anchorage. At 9 o'clock A. M. a ship observed at anchor between Three Fathom Hole and the Outer Roads, but from the haze could not discover of what nation. Her boat came on shore in the course of the morning; she proved to be the British sloop of war Heron, Hon. Captain Grey; from Rio Janeiro 25th February, and Monte Video 6th instant; was three days at the latter port Passengers from M. Video, the lady of W. P. Robertson, Esq., and servant, and J. P. Robertson, Esq. The December packet from England for Buenos Ayres had not arrived at Rio Janeiro on 25th ult., nor the packet for Rio Janeiro: the detention generally supposed to proceed from contrary winds.

Arrived and sailed several sail of small craft from and to the Parana, Bajada, &c. At night, thunder and lightning; the latter struck the foremast of the sloop of war Heron, without materially injuring it.

10.—Wind S. A Brazilian corvette standing up reconnoitring. At 9 A. M. the British sloop of war Heron fired a salute, which was returned by the fort.

11.—Wind S. E. Arrived, national mystico San Ramon, Hervaud, from Patagonia 20th ult.; called and remained some days at the Tuyu; did not see the blockading squadron

Sailed at 2 P. M. British sloop of war Heron, Hon. Captain Grey, for Monte Video and Rio Janeiro; and two zumacas for the Parana.

12.—Wind S. E. Arrived, two balandras. Two Brazilian brigs under sail at day break.

13.—Wind S. S. W. One or two of the blockading squadron appear to keep under sail all night. At day break a corvette was under weigh; she and some others afterwards stood down the river

Arrived from the northward several sail of small craft. Sailed, for the Banda Oriental, Gun Boat No. 9.

A temporary embargo was laid upon boats and craft bound up the river, or to the Banda Oriental.

14.—Wind S. E. blowing a gale. Arrived, in the afternoon, a National schooner, apparently from sea. It was blowing fresh, and none of the blockading squadron got under weigh.

The embargo noticed yesterday, was taken off this morning.

15.—The National schooner which arrived yesterday is the Caroline, (late Robert Armstrong,) captain Love, 61 days from the Havana, with rum, sugar, &c., to Felix Alzaga.

Arrived at the Salado on 9th instant, the zumaca Leonisa, with hides, tallow, &c. taken off Cape Frio by the privateer Vencedor de Ituzaingo. On the 11th arrived at same port the brig Fanny, Captain Francis Frank, taken by privateer schooner Bonaerense on 5th instant, in lat. 32, 10, S. twelve miles from the shore. She mounts six cannon, 9 and 4 pounders; sailed from Monte Video for Rio Grande with a cargo of wine and military accoutrements, under convoy of Emperatriz frigate. A brig, name unknown, anchored about 6 miles from the Salado, N. N. E., on 11th inst.

The British frigate Thetis, Captain Bingham, arrived at Monte Video from Rio Janeiro, and fired a salute, on Sunday morning last. In that port were the Brazilian frigates Princess Imperial, and Nitchteroy, schooner Maria Bella, captain Puker, and a number of small vessels. The late Sardinian brig Asunto is armed with 16 guns, and commanded by Jacinto Pereyra. Lieutenant Paget arrived at Canelones from this, on Sunday night. The reported arrival at Monte Video of the American corvette Plymouth, is a mistake. The James Birkhead was at first supposed to be the Plymouth.

The Brazilian corvette Batioja mounts 20 guns, viz.—six long 18 pounders, and fourteen 32lb. carronades; crew 150 men, mostly landsmen, part of the Irish emigrants at Rio Janeiro. Her best, and almost only sailors, deserted at Monte Video: some of them have arrived here. The corvette is a dull sailer. Her commander, Broom, is a native of Pool, in Dorsetshire, England.

A schooner is waiting in the Parana for 100 more seamen, which the Governor of Santa Fé has promised to send for the National Squadron.

Captain Grey, of the Heron, is son to Lord Grey.

The markets at the Havana, according to the last letters, were exceedingly dull: jerked beef had fallen from 12, to 8 dollars per quintal. The cargoes of the Hercules and Caroline were sold at the latter price. The depression was in consequence of a number of Brazilian prize vessels laden with beef having arrived.

[*Extract of a Letter from M. Video, dated March* 4, 1828.]

"The only novelty which at present occupies the town talk here, is a skirmish in black and white between Guedez (the Brazilian Admiral), and the American Commodore Biddle, with regard to the American ship James Birkhead, which arrived here from Rio Janeiro on 25th ult., and anchored in the Outer Roads under the protection of the Macedonian's guns. The Brazilian Admiral sent his boat to desire the captain (Curtis,) to go on board the Admiral's ship with his ship's papers, as he might probably purchase the vessel for the service of His Imperial Majesty,—(she is a fine Spanish corvette built ship); instead of which, Guedez detained the papers, sent them to the President (Garcia), insisted that the ship should come into the harbour, and sent on shore for a pilot and a guard of soldiers to take care of her in the interim. The American Commodore ordered 30 men from the sloop of war Boston to go on board the Birkhead and bring her alongside the Macedonian, which was handsomely effected by the Boston sailing between that ship and the Brazilian squadron, consisting of the frigates Princess Imperial (Admiral's ship.) Emperatriz, and Nitchteroy. The Brazilians loosed their sails, and we had great expectations to have seen some burning of gunpowder between the South and North American squadrons: we were however disappointed

"The schooner Shillelagh, of Baltimore, with an assorted cargo, was condemned last Wednesday as a lawful prize, in consequence of her having avoided the blockading squadron, and from this her destination presumed for Buenos Ayres.—The vessel and cargo to be immediately sold. An appeal to Rio Janeiro has been entered against this sentence.

"The Brazilian brig of war Maranham has arrived, much crippled in her masts and yards. She has landed (at least so I am informed,) 26 wounded men. On 27th ult. the frigate Nitchteroy and two schooners of war came in from the Salado, and brought in, with loss of topmast, the recaptured Brazilian brig Union Feliz, with salt. She was one of the Niger's prizes, and retaken going into the Salado; Cherry, prize master. On 2d inst. arrived French barque Terneaux, 35 days from Valparaiso. On the 4th arrived an English brig from St. Catherine's, and brought sundry prisoners put on board of her by the Buenos Ayres schooner privateer President, from four prizes which she had captured.*

"On 28th ult. sailed Brazilian frigate Emperatriz, General Mulher on board, for Rio Janeiro: she gave convoy to vessels from this for Rio Grande and Rio Janeiro. On the 1st instant the Dutch ship Christiana sailed for Valparaiso: she has given bonds to the amount of 200,000 dollars. Sailed yesterday, U. S. corvette Boston, with despatches for Rio Janeiro; Colombian brig Caroline, for Chili; and the Brazilian frigates Princess Imperial and Nitchteroy, for up the river. A zumaca, with Buenos Ayres flag under Brazilian, is now coming in. Broom's corvette sailed from Rio Janeiro with a convoy; only one of them has yet arrived here; she parted from the rest in a gale of wind.

"Commodore Biddle has received the papers of the ship James Birkhead; she is discharging 280 barrels of flour, sold at 16 dollars on board."

* The above captures have never been noticed before; we presume there must be some mistake in it.

Further particulars of the cruise of the Niger.

Dec. 30, 1827.—Chased the three-masted schooner as far as the Chico Bank; but owing to currents and light winds, the great distance of the schooner, and Brazilian squadron at anchor off the Chico, gave up the chase. On 3d January, 1828, off Cape St. Mary's, fell in with a Brazilian frigate and a schooner brig; they chased. Having information of a convoy, made sail for Santos: on 14th arrived off that port. On 15th in the afternoon, standing towards the harbour, about 3 leagues distant saw 11 sail, convoyed by a sloop of war, standing out: manœuvred from 4 to 8 P. M. to draw them from the land. At 9 was hailed by the corvette, "*Passe por a popa deste nao,*"—we answered, directly; and immediately gave her our starboard broadside, laid her on board, our bowsprit locking with her mizen rigging and mizen mast. Captain Coe, with the first division of boarders, consisting of 25 men, supported by lieutenants and prize masters, boarded, reached and cleared the poop deck of the corvette, and kept possession for twenty minutes. Only one enemy's officer was on that part, and some marines. This officer was shot, and nearly all that were on the deck: some escaped along the hammocks, and a number of the crew were running down the hatchways. The second division of boarders, consisting chiefly of Portuguese seamen, notwithstanding all the exertions of the officers, could not be persuaded to board; seeing which, the Brazilians kept up a fire of musquetry, and made several attempts to regain the poop deck, but were repulsed. A retreat was ordered upon finding that only 10 of the Niger's boarders were left unhurt. The wounded all got back to the brig. We retreated to the quarter, and drove away the enemy's marines several times; and they did not finally take possession until the Niger's crew had returned to their vessel, and the grapplings had parted. We then wore round under her stern, and gave her our larboard broadside; she made off. When the action began, the convoy dispersed, and some of them are supposed to have run on shore. Only one of them was to be seen after the fight; we took possession of her, and whilst doing so the corvette fired more than 200 cannon shot at us, out of reach. We lost in this affair 24 men killed and wounded, from the boarding and fire of the corvette when near us; damage to the vessel very trifling. The loss of the enemy must have been severe, judging from the groans and cries we heard when upon their deck. She is called the Maria Isabel, [late Fulton,] Captain Mayo, a Portuguese; armed with 24 long twelve pounders, and 4 long eighteens; she had 300 men, including officers. The Niger, 112 men including officers, and 8 twelve pound gunnades.

We cruised off Santos until 28th Jannary, during which time the corvette made three attempts to come out, and put back upon seeing the Niger. On the 21st landed all our prisoners; saw the corvette at anchor, but she shewed no disposition to move.

Off St. Sebastians chased a Spanish felucca and a polacre; lost them at night. At St. Catherine's gave the battery a gun; the soldiers on shore were all at their posts. Stood into the Bay of Palmas, Island of Grande, under Brazilian colours, the brig Pampero's convoy signal at the fore. The commandant sent off a canoe with fruit, and to offer his services. We manned the canoe and our own boats, and pulled towards 4 zumacas at anchor; cut out 3 of them after a slight skirmish with about 100 infantry on shore; the fourth run on shore and was destroyed. Was chased, off Rio Janeiro, by a corvette and two brigs; from their manœuvres they had no desire to come up with us. In a shore expedition lost two officers and a few men; they did not return after waiting for them for some days.

Cargo which the privateer brig Niger brought to this port:—4 bags copper money, 124 do. sugar, 14 do. coffee, 14 rolls tobacco, 12 cases and 6 bales of goods, 24 bags fariña.

A Prospectus for the establishment of a College for young Gentlemen, in Buenos Ayres, to be called the ATENEO, has been published. We subjoin a slight sketch of it. The known talents of the Gentlemen who are to superintend it, render any comment of ours superfluous.

Messrs. Pedro de Angelis and Francis de Curel, (formerly inspector of the Royal College of Henry IV. at Paris,) aided by distinguished professors, propose to direct a Course of Studies, divided into three years. To take half-boarders and out-door scholars, and, when circumstances are more favourable, entire boarders; but there will be an exception in favour of scholars whose parents do not reside in Buenos Ayres. It is thought that the scholars, by zeal and attention, will in the mode proposed acquire more in the three years, than they would in other institutions in a much longer period. It is not intended to open the College until they are secure of a certain number of pupils; it is therefore solicited that parents who wish to confide their sons to this establishment, will address personally or in writing to the Argentine College, No. 107 Calle de la Florida. Señor Angelis observes, that the new establishment will not interfere with the institution for young ladies; this will continue as usual, and Madame Curel, who has superintended for some time a boarding-school at Paris, will assist Madame Angelis. Monsieur Curel is exclusively devoted to the college for young gentlemen. The charge for half-boarders will be 35 dollars each per month, and 18 dollars for out-door scholars.

THE COURSE OF STUDIES DIVIDED INTO THREE YEARS.

First Year.—1. Writing and Orthography. 2. Elements of the Spanish French, and Latin languages. 3. Arithmetic. 4. Elements of Geometry. 5. Ancient Geography. 6. Sacred and Profane History. 7. Ancient History.

Second Year.—1. Continuation of the study of Languages, with the principles of Grammar generally. 2. Continuation of Geometry. 3. Algebra. 4. Modern History. 5. First part of Ideology. 6. Elements of Physic and Chymistry. 7. Modern Geography compared with the Ancient.

Third Year.—1. Application of Grammar to the Study of the Classics. 2. Second part of Ideology. 3. Mythology and Versification. 4. Literature. 5. Trigonometry. 6. Book Keeping. 7. Cosmology.

The English and Italian languages, music, vocal and instrumental, drawing, dancing, and fencing, will be taught if it is the wish of the parents.

THEATRE.

On 13th instant was represented to a full house, and at double prices, the first act of the Opera of the "Barber of Seville." Madame Rhigas performed on the Piano, and Monsieur Rhigas repeated his "Pruebas."—— The Governor was in his box, accompanied by Aid-de-Camp Alvarez, Señor Pedriel, (Judge of Police,) and Don M. Ascuenega.

General Alvear and his lady were likewise in the boxes.

MARRIED,

On the 13th instant, Mr RICHARD SUTTON, JUN., son of Richard Sutton, Esq., Merchant of this City, to DOÑA M. MANCILLA, daughter of General Mancilla.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doubloons, 44 dollars each.
Exchange on England, 18d. per dollar, nominal.
6 per cent. Stock, 53.

☞ Sugar which was at 27 dollars the arroba on Monday last, is now at $12. Hides have declined from $16, to 12.

PRINTED BY STEPHEN HALLET & CO.
No. 75, Calle de Cangallo.